



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 017344/0299

In re patent application of

Motohide OTSUBO

Serial No. 09/357,841

Filed: July 21, 1999

For: A METHOD OF EDITING STRUCTURED DOCUMENTS

Group Art Unit: 2776

Examiner: Unassigned

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GROUP 2799

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.56 AND §1.97**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on a Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to applicant in order to comply with applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. Copies of the listed documents are being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97-1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a prima facie prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE AND FEE

The instant Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in compliance with 37 CFR 1.97(c), within three (3) months of the mailing date of the foreign search report with the required certification under 1.97(e). Therefore, no fee is believed to be due.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned hereby states in accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a

communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

CONCISE EXPLANATION OF RELEVANCE

The cited documents A2-A8 were cited in a Japanese Office Action during prosecution of a counterpart Japanese application.

Document A2 was cited for disclosing, in paragraphs 158-159, the creation of one document by combining a specified format multiple document components that were extracted from structured documents.

Document A3 was cited for disclosing that compound search conditions are divided into single search conditions, the search processing is conducted on the single search conditions, and the search results are combined.

Document A4 was cited for disclosing, in paragraph 117, counting the number of documents and conducting search processing using a scripting language.

Documents A5-A8 were cited as background prior art literature.

English translations of the Japanese documents are not readily available; however, English language abstracts are provided herewith. The absence of such translations does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted documents (37 CFR §1.98 and M.P.E.P. § 609).

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Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with M.P.E.P. §609.

Respectfully submitted,

April 14, 2000

Date

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Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper, or if a petition for extension of time is required for timely acceptance of same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge deposit account No. 19-0741 for any such fees; and applicant hereby petitions for any needed extension of time.

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